

00862.023161

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
YASUO OKUTANI, ET AL.) Examiner: Unassigned
Application No.: 10/627,639) Group Art Unit: 2816
Filed: July 28, 2003)
For: INFORMATION PROCESSING) November 17, 2003
APPARATUS AND METHOD)

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449.

The Examiner's attention is also directed to the following U.S.

Applications:

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>FILING DATE</u>	<u>GROUP ART UNIT</u>	<u>APPLICANT(S)</u>
10/361,612	02/11/2003	NYA	Masayuki Yamada, et al.
10/445,443	06/06/2003	2641	Keiichi Sakai, et al.

In accordance with current U.S. Patent and Trademark Office practices for applications filed after June 30, 2003, no copy of any cited U.S. Application is enclosed.

FEE STATEMENT

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of the present application or prior to the mailing of a first Official Action on the merits of the application. Accordingly, Applicants believe that no fee is necessitated by the filing of this paper. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee necessitated by the filing of this paper to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed for that purpose.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'L. Stahl', written over a horizontal line.

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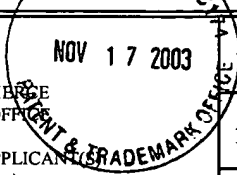
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FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Submitted to the PTO: November 17, 2003



ATTY DOCKET NO.
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APPLICATION NO.
10/627,639

APPLICANT
YASUO OKUTANI, ET AL.

FILING DATE
July 28, 2003

GROUP
2816

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	5,220,629	06/15/1993	Kosaka, et al.	381	52		
	6,021,388	02/01/2000	Otsuka, et al.	704	268		
	2001/0047259	11/29/2001	Okutani, et al.	704	260		
	2003/0097264	05/22/2003	Kosaka, et al.	704	256		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT		

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.